

Aquatic Invasive Species Update Washington & Waukesha Counties



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Amanda Schmitz:

Email: amanda.schmitz@washcowisconsin.gov or aschmitz@waukesha.wisconsin.gov

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Waterfowl Hunters Can Help Prevent the Spread

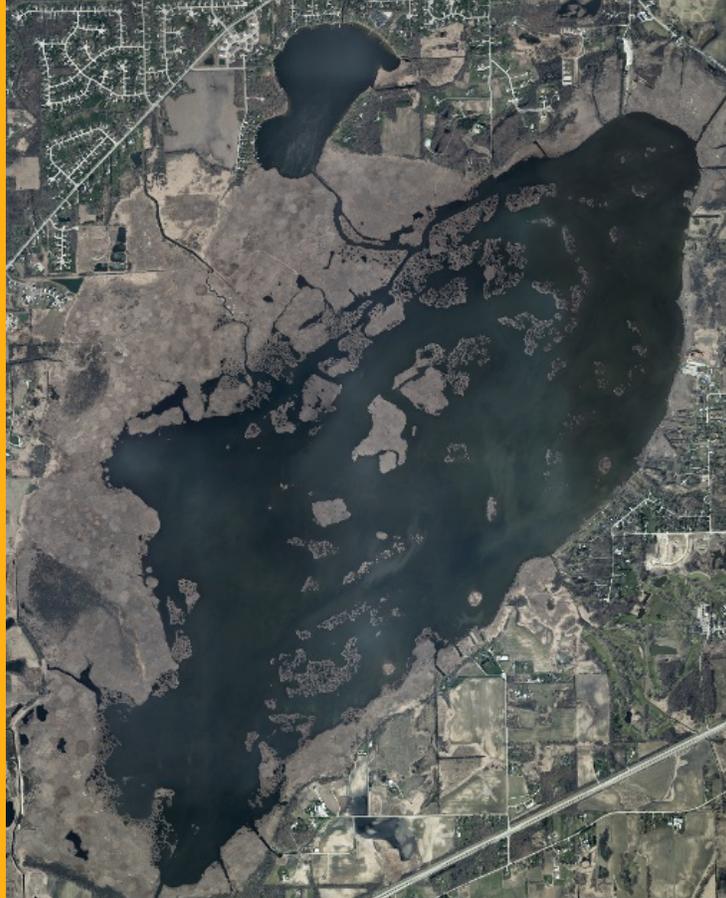
Waterfowl hunters in Wisconsin and beyond can help to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers and preserve waterfowl habitat and populations. Watercraft, trailers, decoys, dogs, and all other hunting equipment can transport invasive species. Taking a few simple steps - **Inspect, Remove, and Drain** - before and after spending time on the water will help protect waterfowl, habitat, and the hunting tradition for generations to come.



Please remember these steps to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

- **INSPECT** footwear, decoys, dogs, watercraft, trailers, motor and hunting equipment
 - **REMOVE** plants, animals, and mud at your hunting site
 - **DRAIN** all water from decoys, watercraft, motor, livewells, and other hunting equipment
 - **NEVER MOVE** plants or live fish away from a waterbody
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**Lake Feature:
Big Muskego Lake - Waukesha County**



With our minds on waterfowl hunting, let's highlight one of the most popular waterfowl hunting sites in southeast Wisconsin: Big Muskego Lake.

Big Muksego Lake is a 2194 acre drainage lake located in southeast Waukesha County. There are 2 public launches located on the lake and several private launches, including The Hunter's Nest: a popular site for waterfowl hunters.

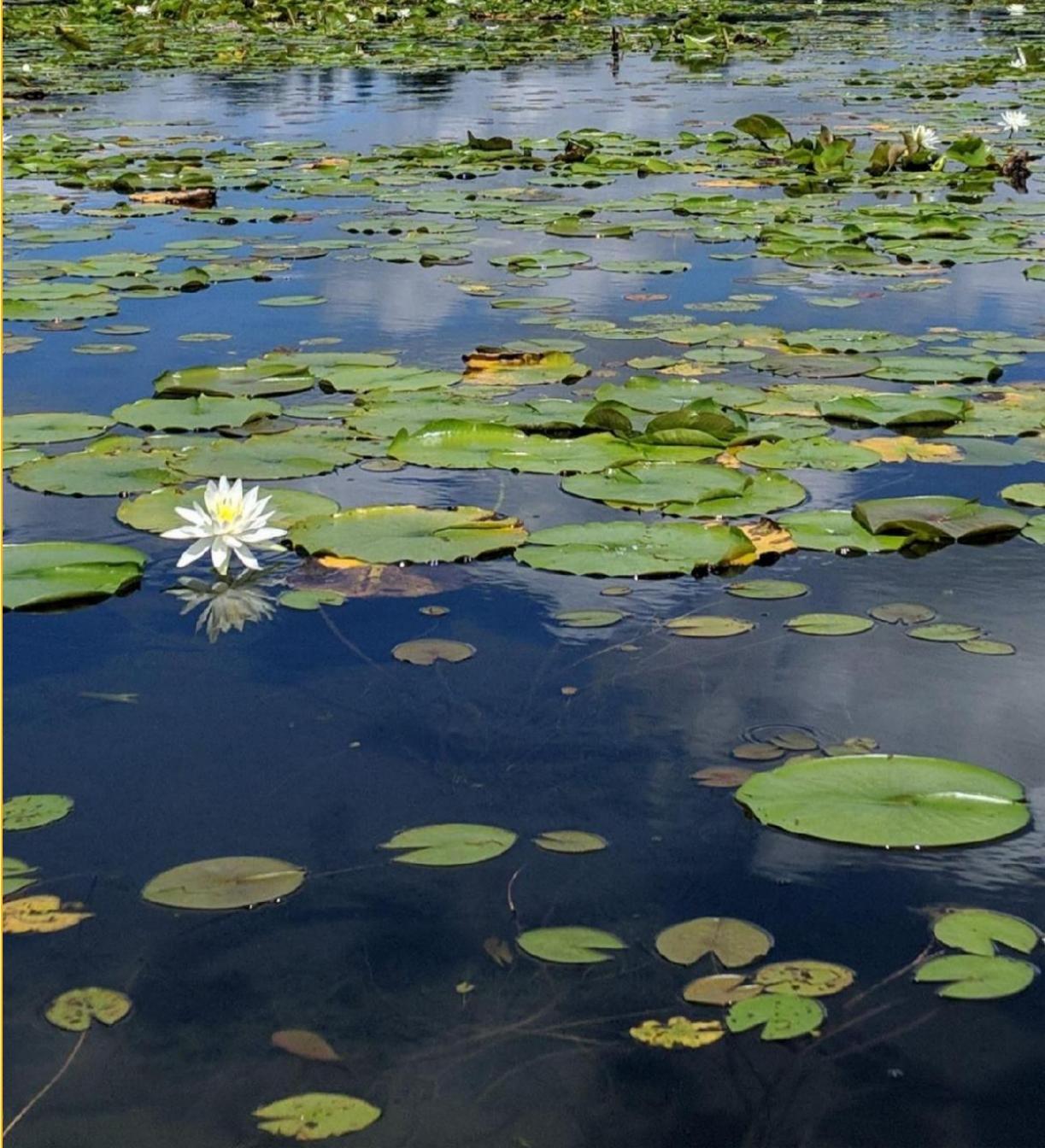
With an average depth of 3 ft., Big Muskego is considered a rare shallow lake ecosystem. These ecosystems are often degraded to promote recreation, however Big Muskego is an excellent example of a relatively intact system. The lake is managed to maintain at least 20% emergent cover to promote wildlife habitat.



Big Musekgo Lake lies within the Big Muksego Lake Wildlife Area, offering many recreational opportunities such as birding, canoeing, cross-country skiing, fishing, hiking, hunting, snowmobiling, trapping, and foraging.

Aquatic invasive species currently identified on the lake include Eurasian Water-Milfoil, Curly-Leaf Pondweed, and Starry Stonewort. When visiting this and all other lakes in the state, please practice the Inspect, Drain, Remove, and Never Move standards to prevent spreading aquatic invasive species to other waterbodies.





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The Aquatic Invasive Species Program is a cooperative effort between Washington & Waukesha Counties, supported by grant funds from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and a number of generous local lake groups working to control the spread of AIS. Thank you for your support!

For more information:

Email: amanda.schmitz@washcowisco.gov

aschmitz@waukeshacounty.gov

Washington County
262-335-4806
www.washcowisco.gov

Waukesha County
262-548-7818
www.waukeshacounty.gov/ais